

DATA SHEET
380TH BOMB GROUP AIRCRAFT

No. 081

SERIAL NO.: <u>42-73113</u>	MOST POPULAR NOSE ART NAME: <u>THE BIG ASS BIRD</u>
MODEL: <u>B-24J-10-CO</u>	MFR: <u>Consolidated-San Diego</u>
	CONTRACTOR'S NO.: <u>2683</u>
INITIAL MFG DATE: <u>09/01/1943</u>	MFG COMPLETION DATE: <u>09/08/1943</u>
FIRST FLIGHT DATE: <u>09/10/1943</u>	MOD CENTER DATE: <u>09/20/1943</u>
	MOD CENTER PLACE: <u>Tucson</u>
USAAF ACCEPTANCE DATE: <u>09/14/1943</u>	
TO STAGING AREA DATE: <u>10/02/1943</u>	STAGING PLACE: <u>Topeka</u>
OVERSEAS FLIGHT DATE: <u>10/19/1943</u>	DEPARTURE PLACE: <u>Fairfield, CA</u>
OVERSEAS ARRIVAL DATE: <u>10/26/1943</u>	DESTINATION: <u>Townsville</u>
MOD COMPLETED OVERSEAS: _____	OVERSEAS MOD PLACE: _____
ASSIGNMENT: <u>380/529</u>	ASSIGNMENT DATE: _____
STATION: <u>Fenton</u>	
FIRST MISSION: <u>11/24/1943</u>	WHERE (1 ST MISSION): <u>Kaoe Bay</u>
NO. OF MISSIONS: <u>42 AU/NG</u>	TERMINATION DATE: <u>06/08/1944</u>
WHY TERMINATED: <u>Shot up on Mission and Salvaged</u>	
WHERE TERMINATED: <u>Wakde Island, New Guinea</u>	
STRICKEN OFF CHARGE: <u>01/28/1945</u>	WHERE REMOVED: <u>UCIP</u>

NOTES:

Serial No.: 42-73113 **Nose Art:** THE BIG ASS BIRD

Model: B-24J-10-CO

[illegible]

MAINTENANCE CREW

Serial No.: 42-73113

Nose Art: THE BIG ASS BIRD

Model: B-24J-10-CO

	SSN	Rank	Name
Crew Chief(s):	15102375	M/Sgt	Robert L. Askins

	SSN	Rank	Name
Mechanic(s):			Not Available in Current Records

Notes:

THE BIG ASS BIRD

Serial No.: 42-73113

Model: B-24J-10-CO

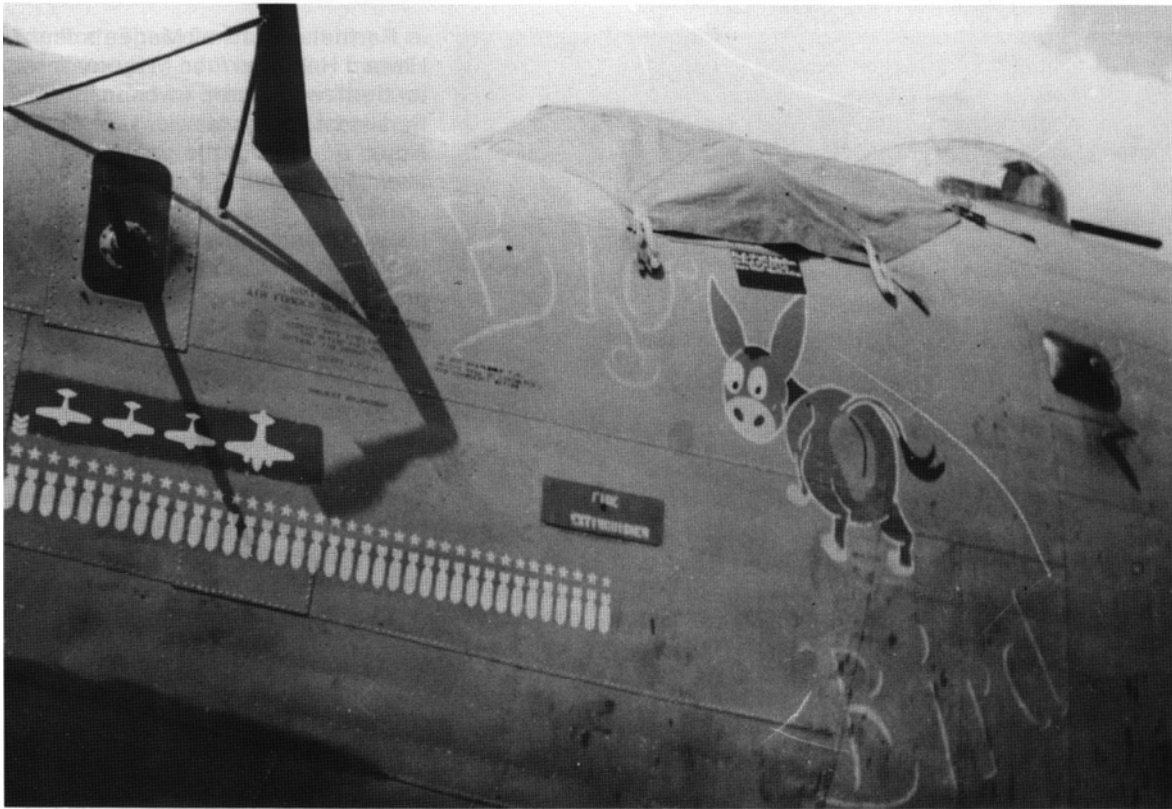


Source: Gossard/Frye Videotape.



F/O LEE BRUCE'S 531st CREW
Lee Brissey Collection

Source: Horton/Horton, King of the Heavies, p. 59; Horton, Best in the Southwest, p. 135.



#113 *Big Ass Bird* pictured later in the Spring of 1944. Kills displayed on the fuselage were not gained on 19 Jan. 44 by Herb Woodward's 529th crew.
Bob Beittling Collection

Source: Horton/Horton, *King of the Heavies*, p. 143; Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p. 158.



BILL ROBERTSON'S 529th CREW

Standing, L to R: Mike D'Agostino-ENG, Harold Helfrich-BOMB, Chas. Lee-CP, Gail Miller-NAV, Robertson-P, Bill Brennan-R/O. Kneeling: Bill Mates-G, Sam Jett-G, Dick Corey-G, Joe Bambino-G.

Edgar Smith Collection

Source: Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p. 184.



HARVEY HARRISON'S 529th CREW

Standing, L to R: Dudley Light-PHOTO, Ed Blount-BOMB, Harrison-P, Leo Woelfel-TAIL. Art Peabody-NOSE, Henry Evans-ENG, Bob Weaver-CP.
Kneeling: Howard Gramblet-R/O, Ken Sauer-NAV, Bob Askins-CREW CHIEF, Bill Burns-WG, Earl Belch-WG.

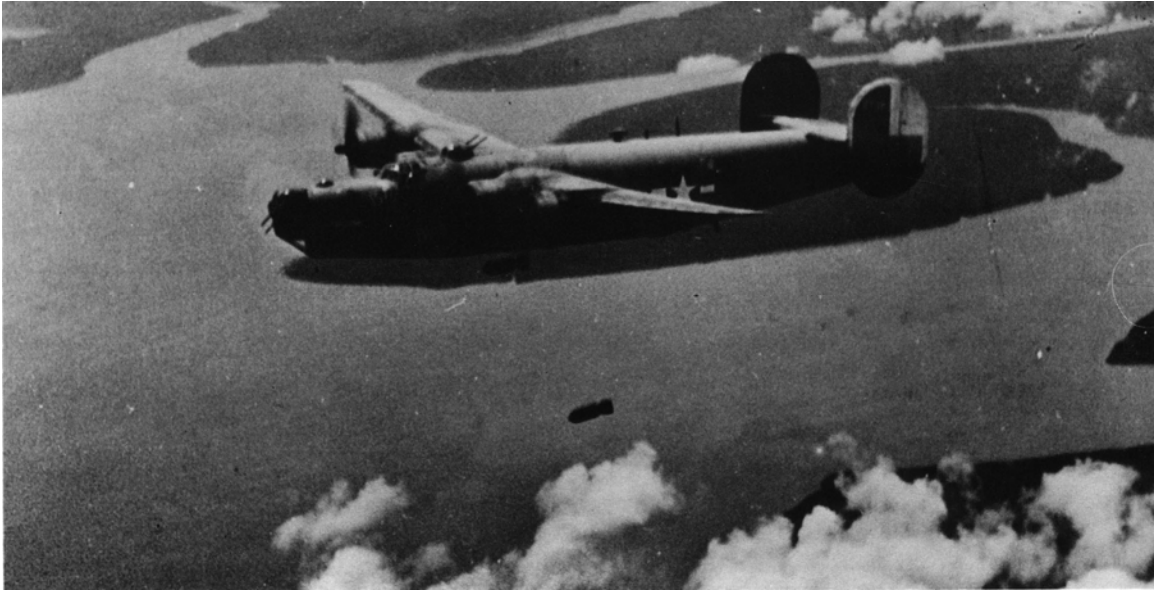
Leo Woelfel Collection

Source: Horton, Best in the Southwest, p. 239.



The 529th Harrison crew which left BIG ASS BIRD on Wakde Island after being shot up over Waigeo Harbor, 8 June 44. (Virgil Stevens)

Source: Horton/Horton, King of the Heavies, p. 67.



529th ship BIG ASS BIRD bombing Babo

Source: Horton/Horton, King of the Heavies, p. 50.

MISSION RECORD

SN 42-73113 NOSE ART THE BIG ASS BIRD MODEL J-10-CO

SQDN ASSGD 528 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 113

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: Missions 4-11: New Guinea Deployment III

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
1	11/24/1943	FEN III-30	Strike	Kaoe Bay, Halmahera	24	Robertson	529	
2	11/29/1943	FEN III-32	Recce	Manokwari, Sorong	24	Robertson	529	
3	12/03/1943	FEN III-33	Strike	Koepang	24	Robertson	529	
4	12/13/1943	346DD	Strike	Cape Hoskins Airdrome	24	Robertson	529	
5	12/14/1943	347GG	Strike	Arawe Plantation	24	Robertson	529	
6	12/14/1943	347II	Strike	Arawe	24	Robertson	529	
7	12/15/1943	348DD	Strike	Cape Gloucester	24	Robertson	529	
8	12/16/1943	349AA	Strike	Cape Gloucester	24	Robertson	529	
9	12/19/1943	352GG	Strike	Cape Gloucester Strip #2	24	Robertson	529	
10	12/20/1943	353GG	Strike	Gloucester Target #3	24	Robertson	529	
11	12/21/1943	354FF	Strike	Gloucester	24	Robertson	529	

MISSION RECORD

SN 42-73113 **NOSE ART** THE BIG ASS BIRD **MODEL** J-10-CO
SQDN ASSGD 528 **MFR** Consolidated-San Diego **M#** 113
LOCATION: Australia
NOTES: Missions 12-18: New Guinea Deployment III

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
12	12/22/1943	355JJ	Strike	Gloucester	24	Robertson	529	
13	12/23/1943	356FF	Strike	Gloucester	24	Robertson	529	
14	12/24/1943	357EE	Strike	Gloucester	24	Robertson	529	
15	12/25/1943	358EE	Strike	Cape Gloucester	24	Robertson	529	
16	12/26/1943	359HH	Strike	Cape Gloucester	24	Robertson	529	
17	12/26/1943	359MM	Strike	Cape Gloucester	24	Robertson	529	
18	12/30/1943	363DD	Strike	Alexishafen	24	Robertson	529	
19	01/08/1944	FEN IV-1	Strike	Kendari	25	R. Craig	530	Connery Crew
20	01/17/1944	FEN IV-9	Recce	Manokwari, Noemfoor Island	35	Tosch	529	
21	01/19/1944	FEN IV-11	Strike	Ambon	41	Woodward	529	First Mission for this Crew

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SQDN ASSGD 528 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 113

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: _____

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
22	01/19/1944	FEN IV-32	Recce	Kaoe Bay, Halmahera	40	Ivey	529	
23	02/27/1944	FEN IV-40	Recce	Shipping, Sumba	24	Robertson	529	
24	03/09/1944	FEN IV-49	Recce	Shipping, Timor Sea	40	Ivey	529	
25	03/15/1944	FEN V-18	Strike	Soerabaja	39	Harrison	529	
26	03/17/1944	FEN V-30	Strike	Soerabaja	39	Harrison	529	
27	03/23/1944	FEN VI-2	Recce	Vogelkopf	34	Bilotti	529	
28	03/25/1944	FEN VI-4	Recce	Photo, Babo	27	Dow	529	
29	03/30/1944	FEN VI-8	Strike	Kai Islands	29	Stevens	529	
30	04/03/1944	FEN VI-11	Strike	Langoor A/D, Kai Islands	27	Dow	529	
31	04/05/1944	FEN VI-13	Recce	Geelvink Bay	29	Stevens	529	
32	04/07/1944	FEN VI-16	Strike	Langoor A/D	17	Toepperwein	529	

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SQDN ASSGD 528 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 113

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: _____

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
33	04/18/1944	FEN VI-23	Strike	Babo	43	Napier (RAAF)	529	First Mission for this Crew
34	04/24/1944	FEN VI-36	Strike	Kamiri A/D, Noemfoor Island	39	Harrison	529	
35	04/27/1944	FEN VI-41	Strike	Babo	39	Harrison	529	
36	04/30/1944	FEN VI-45	Strike	Kamiri A/D, Noemfoor Island	39	Harrison	529	
37	05/07/1944	FEN VII-6	Strike	Utoram A/D, Dutch NG	42	Overheu (RAAF)	529	
38	05/09/1944	FEN VII-11	Strike	Langgoer A/D, Kai Islands	43	Overheu (RAAF)	529	
39	05/26/1944	FEN VII-23	Strike	Manokwari	39	Harrison	529	Abort, Mechanical
40	05/28/1944	FEN VII-25	Strike	Jefman	40	Carmichael	529	Abort, #3 & 4 Supercharger

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SQDN ASSGD 528 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 113

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: _____

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
41	05/31/1944	FEN VII-26	Strike	Liang	39	Harrison	529	
42	06/08/1944	FEN VII-32	Strike	Shipping, Jefman	39	Harrison	529	
								Flown to Wakde Because of Battle Damage, Scrapped There